

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SERVING INTEGRATED STREAMS OF MULTIMEDIA INFORMATION

Abstract

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The present invention relates to an integrated client-server configuration for real-time teaching and conferencing sessions. There are, for example, two graphical user interface (GUI) clients- a presentation client that can originate sessions, and a participant client that can join an ongoing session or receive a replay of a recorded session. The 10 primary role of the server is multiplexing the output of the presentation client to many participants, potentially numbering in thousands, who are able to participate in the session from other network locations, e.g., the Internet, using participant client software that functions as a plug-in to an Internet Web browser on an off-the-shelf computer with sound presentation capability. One or more presenters may control the entire session 15 through a connection from a network location. The server is capable of storing the entire delivered contents of the session and providing for its asynchronous playback to thousands of individual participants on demand.